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## NO FOOD IN JANUARY FOR POLICE OR ARMY

Situation in Austria Approaching Grave Crisis for Want of Credit.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 20.

Reports from Vienna depict the situation there as increasing in gravity. In well informed quarters here it is insisted that Chancellor Schober, Austria's strong man of the moment, intends to resign after January 1 if more financial assistance is not forthcoming in the shape of large credits from the Allies. In this connection it was learned that France has not yet turned over the \$250,000 which it promised a year ago, the money being tied up in an Austrian bank by formalities insisted upon by Paul Doumer, French Minister of Finance.

Chancellor Schober's resignation, it is feared, would open the way for another uprising of more serious proportions by the Communists. Herr Rosenberg, Austrian Finance Minister, is now in London making desperate efforts to raise funds to stave off the peril. The Austrian question is understood to be one of the reasons prompting Premier Lloyd George to seek a settlement of the Russian problem once and for all, as he believes that Austria's danger will be lessened if Moscow's influence is withdrawn from the Southern Communists. Austria's plight is being advanced in London as another reason why there should be a general European conference.

In discussing the latest reports from Austria to-night the *Liberte* insists that it is a question which has three solutions and asks which France prefers: to see Bolshevism triumph in Vienna at the risk of extending all over Europe and menacing France's reconstruction; of assisting Austria's reattachment to the German Empire or of sending some regiments to Vienna to maintain order and uphold the political status of central Europe created by the St. Germain treaty.

Pointing out the danger to Switzerland and France from a successful Communist movement, the *Liberte* says: "To avoid this catastrophe, whose consequences are incalculable, the Allies should make immediately at least a simple gesture which in evidencing their interest in Austria would help to strengthen the Schober Government."

Austria is said to have only enough food to last two months and the Government's finances are so low that it will not be able to feed the police and troops after the beginning of the year. While Austria has just signed a treaty with Czechoslovakia, increasing the coal supply 300 tons daily, this does not solve the immediate food and economic problems which threaten a crisis in January.

Dispatches from THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent in Vienna say that the political parties have finally arrived at a compromise fixing a four months period wherein the food subsidy is to be gradually withdrawn to relieve the Government from one of its worst burdens, but Vienna papers characterize this decision as a dangerous experiment, which can only be successful if foreign credits are granted to create a rise in the value of the crown. If the crown continues its downward movement the measure simply will make everything more expensive and will Bolshevize financial conditions in Austria.

## A. E. F. MEN PROVE NO ILLEGAL HANGING

Continued from First Page.

saw the man's heart and brain removed to see if he was crazy."

"Who did that?"

"A Major in the American Medical Corps."

"Know his name?"

"No."

"Was the Detroit sergeant allowed to tell his side of it to the French court?" Senator Watson asked.

"No, sir; he wasn't asked to testify, but he did say he wasn't responsible for the death of the girl concerned."

"Taylor said he saw two other executions in April, 1919, at Camp Wilson. The first was on April, when the entire command was ordered to the gallows to witness it."

"They had a double line of soldiers at the gallows," he said, "and Major Ross was in command. The man hanged was a negro. A chaplain went to the scaffold and prayed and then they hanged him."

"Was the man hanged tried by court-martial?" Chairman Brandegee asked.

"I don't know."

"Was any announcement made to that effect?"

"No."

A second execution, a week later, he said, was precisely like the first.

Taylor did not know if the victim of the second hanging had been tried.

"What became of the bodies?"

"They were taken to the hospital."

"Saw Lynching Through Glasses."

Harrison testified that the lynching of the Mexican took place in 1917. The victim was from El Paso or Eagle Pass, Texas, and was charged with a crime against a woman, and tried said the witness.

"I was told that the man had to be hanged to save some officers from being cashiered," Harrison declared. Through a pair of field glasses Harrison said he saw the lynching in which thirty men took part.

"It was a nice little necktie party," he said, "I saw the body later with a rope around the neck."

"This wrist of mine," said Harrison, lifting his left arm, "was broken while trying to save myself from Harb Boiled Smith and a couple of his sergeants."

The witness asserted he saw men taken to the firing line without gas masks or guns as a form of punishment.

"Were you court-martialed?" asked Senator Overman, Democrat, North Carolina.

"Yes, The Colonel cursed me and I cursed him back, and he had me sent to the firing line after trial. His name? Col. Holdbrook. If I ever got him I'll make him remember me."

"They wouldn't give me a gas mask, and my trouble to-day is due to gas, the medical record shows."

Col. Bethel pointed out that in time of war court martial death sentence did not require approval of the President.

Questioned by Senator Watson, Col. Bethel said that after war conditions had ended, the Government directed that all sentences be forwarded to Washington for review.

Col. Bethel denied it was his inference, as suggested by Senator Watson, that executions were continuing.

Before going into the testimony the committee listened to the reading of scores of telegrams to and from witnesses respecting their attendance. Many of them—former service men—telegraphed that they were without funds, and in these cases arrangements were made to provide transportation.

Several of the men summoned replied that they could not come for three dol-

lars a day subsistence, the Senate allowance. "We'll come for seven dollars a day," said one former soldier, and another demanding the same rate said the Veterans' Bureau paid \$4.50.

The names of witnesses summoned for to-day and to-morrow were called and there was a shout of "Here!" from all parts of the room.

The statement of William Cowles of Minneapolis that the picture at Gievres purporting to be of a gallows was in reality that of a crane was presented.

When the picture was shown to Colonel Bethel, he was asked if it was a gallows or a gasoline crane. He replied:

"It looks like a gallows, but I never saw a gallows in my life."

The case of a conscientious objector named Fry, who refused to carry his rifle, and who was killed by order of the guard, was brought up.

"The man who killed the soldier was tried and acquitted," Colonel Bethel testified.

"It is our contention," said Senator Watson, "that Fry was killed by a sergeant who drove a bayonet through his heart."

"Does the record show that?" asked Senator Overman, Democrat, North Carolina.

"I think not," Colonel Bethel replied.

Scott, the Ohio witness, told in detail how Major Opley, Third battalion, 116th Infantry, shot a sergeant fifteen miles north of Verdun on October 9, 1918. There was no court martial, he added.

"Why did the major do it?" Chairman Brandegee asked.

"He just lost his head," Scott replied.

A few days later, he declared, Major Opley stopped a private carrying a message.

"Opley told him to let him see the message," said Scott, "and the soldier

refused, saying the message was not for him. Then Major Opley drew his .45 and shot the man in the back, killing him. Nothing was done, the men were afraid to protest, and there was no trial."

When Colonel Bethel said there was no "Opley" on the army lists, Scott replied:

"I could not swear how the name was spelled, but that was the way he was called."

Cochran Supplee of Chicago, who was a first lieutenant overseas, was called as a witness but declared he knew nothing about illegal hangings in France.

## DENIES ANY HANGINGS IN IS-SUR-TILLE AREA

SEATTLE, Dec. 20.—Major John Carroll, who was American Provost Marshal of the Is-Sur-Tille area, France, during 1918 and the early part of 1919, to-night denied that American soldiers had been hanged in that area between January, 1918, and February, 1919, as charged by George H. Taylor before a Senate committee in Washington, D. C.

"I had thirty-four towns in my area," said Major Carroll, "and in all the time I was in Is-Sur-Tille there were no convictions for serious crimes whatever and absolutely no executions. Neither were American soldiers tried by French courts-martial nor French soldiers by American courts-martial. Had there been any criminal prosecutions of serious nature I would have known of them, as they would have gone through my hands."

"After I left that area in 1919 I did hear that a colored soldier, whose trial for murder had been pending, had been hanged. That would have been in March, 1919."

## MAJOR OPIE DENIES SHOOTING CHARGE

No Soldier Executed in Whole Division, He Declares.

STAUNTON, Va., Dec. 20.—Major Hiram L. Opley, who commanded the Third Battalion, 116th Infantry, in France, described as "deliberately untrue" testimony to-day before a Senate committee that a "Major Opley" of that unit had shot two soldiers without trial.

"There was not a single man either shot for failure to do his duty or executed in the whole Twenty-ninth Division," Major Opley said. "There is no sergeant or orderly unaccounted for in the 116th Infantry."

Major Opley was wounded and decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, the Legion of Honor and the French Croix de Guerre.

## COL. COBB TRANSFERRED.

Head of Fox Hills Hospital to Take New Post.

Col. Julius O. Cobb, surgeon in charge of Fox Hills Hospital, Staten Island, since October, 1920, whose administration of that and Polytechnic Hospital has been criticized severely by the American Legion, has been transferred to another post it was announced yesterday.

The transfer will become effective January 1, but the designation of his new position has not been made known.

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## COLUMBIA ELECTION TO-NIGHT.

Charles H. Mapes of the class of 1885 will be the president of the Columbia University Club for the fourth time. His name heads the ticket which will be voted upon this evening at the annual meeting of the club to be held

at the clubhouse, 4 West Forty-third street. An amendment to the club's constitution, concerning the date for the payment of dues, will also be presented for a vote.  
Milton L. Cornell, '05 Science, has been nominated for vice-president of the club; Harris K. Masters, '04 Mines, for secretary; and Roland P. Jackson, '02, treasurer.

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Model "B," a phonograph with 3-spring motor. Cabinet is 50 inches high, with width in proportion. Space for eleven record albums.

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Full size cabinet machine standing 47½ inches high. Queen Anne corner posts. Double spring motor.

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The "Popular" Model, of superior construction and finish. Stands 47 inches high. Double spring motor.

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